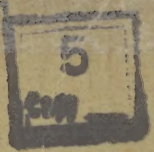


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COMMENTS ON

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DR. SENN'S SPEECH



BEFORE THE

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

IN WHICH HE PICTURES THE CRIMES
OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

ARMSTRONG.

PRICE, 10 CENTS



Starving members of the American Medical Association, plotting to smuggle an infamous bill through the Michigan Legislature.

They will also attempt it in other states.

Above cut is from Dr. R. C. Flowers' great Iowa speech.

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Dr. Senn of Chicago Points Out The Crimes Of The Medical Profession.

Those desiring to escape life-long suffering or legal murder at the hands of thousands of American surgeons, would do well to study carefully the address delivered by Dr. Nicholas Senn, of Chicago before "The American Medical Association," at Atlanta, Ga., during last month.

It is perfectly astonishing that the people of this Nation can be imposed upon to such an alarming extent; and that the men who belong to the Medical Trust not only can mutilate and ruin for life thousands of the most intelligent citizens all over the United States, but have their numerous crimes so shrewdly legalized that they can even kill their confiding patients, and not only charge a large fee for their crimes but can continue to appear as deserving of the confidence and esteem of the respective communities in which they live. It is useless to comment on the crimes that were perpetrated during the dark ages. The blood-stained pages of history, it is true, show a fearful record; but when we compare the advantages enjoyed by Society today with the ignorance that prevailed then, and fully realize what crimes are being committed by the Medical Profession, thoughtful people do not understand how such a dreadful state of affairs is possible. Dr. Senn to a certain extent points out some of the causes; and we would commend to the careful consideration of intelligent thinking people a few of his remarks. He said:

"What a contrast between the standing of the surgeon of today and his colleagues of only a century ago. It is not long since the art of surgery was limited to bleeding, cupping, leeching, setting of a broken limb, reducing a dislocation, stanching hemorrhage, opening an abscess or amputating a limb for injury or disease beyond the reach of conservative measures.

Relation of Surgeon to Physician.

"He was the subordinate, almost slave, of the pompous,

arrogant and self-confident physician of that time. He subsisted from the crumbs that fell from time to time from his master's table. The betterment in the standing and sphere of the members of the surgical craft during the last century is entirely due to the enormous progress that has been made in the science and art of surgery. During this time the legitimate field of medicine has gradually diminished before the advancing columns of progressive and aggressive surgeons.

"The physician no longer has a monopoly over the diseases of all the internal organs. The physician's distinctive apparel and gold-headed cane of but few years ago no longer intimidate the surgeon; they have disappeared from the scene and the surgeon stands on the same level, if not higher, in every respect with the physician in the eyes of the masses and the estimation of the scientific world.

"No wonder that a sense of security created by such wonderful changes made the surgeon bold. In consequence of such revolutionary changes wrought in the practice of surgery new territories were invaded and organ after organ, the seat of injury or disease, were subjected to direct surgical intervention. Step by step the scalpel found its way into localities where formerly the physician had reigned alone and supreme, and where its presence would have been regarded by him as convincing proof of homicidal intent.

Operative Surgery, Past and Present.

"No better evidence can be advanced to show the difference in the kind and scope of work of the surgeon of today with the one before the pre-antiseptic time than a comparison between the works of operative surgery of now and then. The sense of safety which took possession of the surgeon and an earnest desire to extend his skill to the successful treatment of affections which had heretofore baffled the efforts of the physician, brought on a warfare on almost every organ the seat of real or imaginary disease. The physician found himself suddenly out of his long time honored routine practice.

"The specialists utilized the opportunity and left no stone unturned to extend their sphere of activity. Brain surgeons, abdominal surgeons, neck surgeons, appeared on the scene and filled the medical press with accounts of their wonderful surgical feats. The old-fashioned gynecologist became restless and anxious to exchange harmless, bloodless measures for the knife and scissors. His desire for bloody operations was not satisfied by sewing lacerations of the cervix and perineum. He felt that in

order to keep abreast with the spirit of the present age, he must increase his range of action, and in due course of time the ovaries, fallopian tubes and uterus became the theater of his aggressiveness.

From the above description given by Dr. Senn of the work of these blood thirsty monsters, it is high time that the public should take steps to protect themselves, but it is only when they undertake work of this kind that they begin to discover that there is a medical monopoly existing in this country; and that in many of the states saving life is a crime according to the infamous laws passed, if performed by a physician not in the Medical Trust; while one who is under the protection of that monopoly can mutilate, unsex and even kill victim after victim, and yet under the laws that have been smuggled through the state legislature in certain states for the purpose of protecting these criminals, they can continue their murderous work and the public is entirely at their mercy.

Truly exclaimed Sir Astley Cooper (a surgeon of world wide fame) "The science of medicine is founded upon conjecture and improved by murder." He had reference, of course, to the allopathic system; and at this advanced age the statements of Dr. Senn, America's greatest surgeon, shows beyond a doubt that the murderers are rapidly increasing instead of decreasing. Dr. Senn it is true does not use quite so harsh language. It would perhaps have had an unpleasant effect upon that body of cultured gentlemen members of the American Medical Association. If you do not belong to this association, and you should steal twenty or thirty dollars, you are liable to see the inside of a jail in short order; but if you have studied for four years at a Medical Monopoly college that this Association recognizes as in good standing, you will see by a careful reading of Dr. Senn's speech what is

possible. If you want to be a polished villain, committing the double crime of robbery and murder and yet escape punishment, there is possibly no way that you can accomplish this object so easily as to comply with the rules of said association and keep in the good graces of such Monopoly Rings as the Illinois State Board of Health.

Do you want proof that this is being done, and that we are only stating the plain truth? Then read carefully the last few lines just quoted from Dr. Senn's address, and you will see what a craze there is for the bloody operations that he refers to. He also admits that the mutilating work still continues in spite of such well-meant advice as he and others are giving.

This of course means that members of the American Medical Association understand perfectly well that victim after victim is being ruined for life, and that many die upon the operating table while undergoing operations for which there is no decent excuse. It is simply being done to gratify the ambition and thirst for money of the graduates of medical colleges that belong to this Monopoly Ring. When will the public get their eyes open to the fact that the danger resulting from common robbers and murderers is small, and their victims few, compared with those of this gigantic Ring?

Dr. Senn continues: "Even the acquisition of this additional territory did not satisfy his ambition."

"The adjoining great abdominal cavity, with its many important organs, was looked upon with a jealous eye and it has been made the common camping ground of the general surgeon and the gynecologist for several years."

Atomizers vs. Saws and Chisels.

"The throat and nose specialist, under the same influences, became disgusted with his brush, powder-blower and atomizers; sharp spoons, chisels and saws came into requisition, and the number of deflected septa, hypertrophic turbinated bones and

third tonsil increased alarmingly and were attacked most energetically. The rectal specialist, who made a modest living by stretching the sphincter and ligating piles, saw a fortune in adding to his limited sphere of activity, resection of the rectum, and later, emboldened by his efforts carried his crusade to the topmost limits of the large intestine.

Here Dr. Senn points out in plain language that the Doctors he refers to saw a fortune in pretending to their confiding patients that there was some very serious difficulty that could only be removed by an operation; when the facts were that there was not only no call for such bloody work, but many of the victims in undergoing these operations have been mutilated, and disfigured for life. According to Dr. Senn this was done because the operator saw a fortune in adding to his limited sphere of activity such damnable work. To simply have robbed his patients, even had he taken his or her last penny like a common thief, would have been merciful compared to disfiguring and maiming a patient for life, as is so often done, and then rob the patient besides. It is difficult to use language that adequately describes such infamy.

Dr. Senn further says: "The average orthopedist is no longer satisfied to correct deformities by the use of bloodless manual and mechanical measures: he has acquired a fondness for the knife, saw and chisel, so as not to be left behind in the procession. The genito-urinary surgeon has become tired of treating gonorrhea, strictures and syphilis; he can see no reason why he should not cut for stone, extirpate kidneys and perform plastic operations on the ureters.

A Craze for Surgical Operations.

"The furor operativus manifested in these and other special departments of surgery, and its obvious results, renders the standing and legitimate scope of the general surgeon very uncertain and indefinite at the present time. Let the general surgeon turn to the right or the left, advance or retreat and he finds himself on reserved territory. As for the physician, he is expected to answer night calls, prescribe for diarrhoea and whooping cough, watch cases of typhoid fever, measles, scarlet

tina and smallpox, and should complications arise and he does not report to the proper authority he renders himself liable to censure.

"Much of this ill-applied energy in the surgical world has resulted in detriment to patients and in retarding actual surgical progress. Operative surgery has been carried to extremes. A calm inspection of the ground that has been gone over will show some of the Limits of the Art of Surgery."

In condemning the too frequent use of the knife, he said:

"Is it not a fact that the abdomen is being opened daily by men who have not the faintest idea of what they may have to do, simply because they regard such a step as harmless and free of danger and the shortest and easiest way to make a diagnosis? To say that such a blind confidence in the efficiency and safety of aseptic precautions is not in accord with the work of the conscientious surgeon is to put it mildly. It is fortunate for the patients of such ever-ready and self-confident operators that the peritoneum under ordinary circumstances can dispose of more pathogenic microbes without harm resulting than any other tissue of the body. If it were not such a serious matter, it would be amusing to see how such men explain an occasional death that occurs in their practice in cases where it was least expected."

If the public will carefully ponder over the facts Dr. Senn relates, they will get some idea as to what dangers they are exposed to, and see the great importance of acquiring some knowledge in regard to medical matters on which their health and life depend. It has been proven beyond a doubt that knowledge can be acquired at home in spare moments that will enable parents and friends to treat successfully, with home remedies, thousands of cases in the treatment of which so-called "highly educated" graduates of Medical Monopoly Colleges would only cut and disfigure for life or administer poison that would render the case incurable. To the careful consideration of an outraged public, and to those who are trying to inaugurate a reform in the noblest and most useful of all the arts, we commend what follows of this most interesting address.

"Many of the bold attempts upon the organs of the three

great cavities are far beyond the legitimate restrictions established by the science of surgery. The mania for achieving new victories outside of the sphere of legitimate rational surgery has neither brought lasting reputation to the adventurers nor benefit to suffering humanity. Many of the new operative procedures remind one more of sensationalism than the product of mature, deep surgical reasoning".

Bold and Brilliant Operators.

"The accounts of new operations that are being constantly devised have left operative surgery in a state of confusion. Works on operative surgery that left the press six months ago are obsolete or at least unsatisfactory today. The technique of nearly every operation is constantly undergoing changes by the addition of important or scientific modifications.

"Nearly every surgeon has a flaming desire to connect his name with an instrument of his invention, a new operation or a modification of an old one. A new operation is devised, a case is found upon which it is tried, and if the result is in any way favorable an account of it is sure to find its way promptly into the current medical literature. Many members of the medical profession are willing and ready imitators, who are always anxiously waiting for new discoveries and improvements, ever ready to apply them in their practice without questioning their ability or justifiability.

"This blind imitation of the practice of others has been the source of great harm to confiding patients and has exerted a powerful inhibitory effect on the true progress of surgery.

The Worst of All.

In treating of the abusive and almost criminal negligence employed by some of the younger surgeons of the day in operating on the organs of generation, Dr. Senn's address struck a key note, and many of the doctors said that this part of his address was the best of all. Dr. Senn said:—

A Vigorous Arraignment.

"When I arraign the gynecologists before this body, composed of representative medical men of this country, for innumerable and inexcusable transgressions of the rules which ought to govern and control the art of surgery, I do not include the scientific, honest, conscientious workers in that department of surgery, but my remarks will apply to a class of routine operators which has recently grown to alarming dimensions not only in this, but in nearly every country which has been penetrated

by the dim rays of so-called bold surgery. It is a subject that I would gladly pass over in silence; but you have imposed upon me a trust which I cannot ignore and I stand here in the capacity of the conservative element in these days of wild, unfounded surgery, to place myself on record in protesting against the unnecessary mutilation of the sexual organs of either sex, willing stand or fall by the sentiments of the great mass of general practitioners, which, after all, must be regarded as the backbone and final tribunal of our profession".

In support of his position Dr. Senn cited many cases in which young women had been ruined through such practices.

Has Humanity Been the Gainer?

In conclusion, he said; "Every practitioner has seen such instances as I have cited above. Has humanity been the gainer since the gynecologists became surgeons? This is a timely and serious question. Is the average woman who has passed through the hands of one or more gynecologists physically and mentally in a better condition than our mothers of fifty years ago, whose ovaries were safe and who knew but little about speculums and vaginal douches? Let the older members of our association answer this question. When the venerable and distinguished Emmet devised his operation for laceration of the cervix he pointed out clearly what conditions called for and were benefited by trachelorrhaphy. The operation was received with enthusiasm and every one present here knows how much it has been misapplied. It is safe to assert that in not one in ten cases that have been operated upon was the operation justifiable or proved of any benefit to the patient."

We wish it distinctly understood that we fully realize there are many able, worthy and honorable men who may be said to belong to the "Regular" or Allopathic school; and we are glad to know that they are strongly opposed to the outrages now being perpetrated upon the people, such as Dr. Senn has pointed out. But even granting that many men of learning, skill and national fame have been found in the ranks of this school for the last fifty years or longer, the records show that but little is to be expected from their efforts to reform and hold in check the predominant element in their fraternity. Dr. Senn

fully realizes that their voice is feeble, and has but little weight in putting a stop to the most gigantic system of legalized quackery the world has ever witnessed. These liberal men in the Allopathic School well know the truth of the statement made by Dr. J. G. Holland, when he said: "Any man who leaps out of the regular old professional frying pan, alights in a fire of professional malediction." To champion the cause of the oppressed who are being ruined physically, mentally and financially by this gigantic Monopoly Ring called by such respectable names as "the American Medical Association" "The Illinois State Board of Health" and "State Board of Medical Examiners," is to be called a quack, a fraud, a humbug, or a heretic, If you want to be considered in good standing with these combinations referred to, any protest you make against the legalized murder which they are guilty of, must indeed be feeble. The following remarks written over forty years ago by Professor Alva Curtis, M. D., are as true and applicable today as then.

"To a powerful and well disciplined mind, thoroughly acquainted with the truths and facts of the case, it is both painful and disheartening to perceive how extensively a few comparatively obscure men of moderate talent and little information or less discrimination and candor, have succeeded in persuading a large majority of the intelligent and refined of the community, even of the professions of religion and law; of the statesmen, philosophers, philanthropists and men of every trade or occupation, and even thousands of their own profession, to believe that the Allopathic system of medicine is based on the solid principles of science, and that its practice is worthy of the dignified title of an art; when, in fact, there can scarcely be found, in the whole ranks of the profession, in ancient or in mod-

ern times, a single man distinguished for his talents, his education, his accurate discrimination, his candor, honor and humanity, who has sincerely believed its doctrines, or placed any confidence in its practice. On the contrary, the most of them have publicly denounced its leading doctrines, as a system of "absurdity, contradiction and falsehood," and its practices as "horrid, unwarrantable, murderous quackery." Prof. N. Chapman.

"Did the doctrines of Allopathy work only the profit of the deceivers, we might, to some extent, excuse it; but, when it is demonstrated that the practice daily and hourly works out the life-long ruin of the poor, frail, mortal bodies of thousands and tens of thousands of our citizens, causing them to drag out a few years of miserable existence in extreme debility and emaciation, with stiff incurvated limbs, a total loss of teeth and appetite," "a loathing to themselves and a disgusting spectacle to those around them;" while, with its millions of victims of premature destruction, it peoples, yearly, the dark and silent regions of the dead, our sorrow and chagrin at the deception are turned into deep lamentation, disgust and abhorrence; and we are constrained to exclaim, "By what unaccountable perversity of our nature" is it that we can be so wicked as thus to deceive others, or so blind and stupid as to be deceived, in such manner, to our own or to their destruction.

"Another of the strangest phenomena which the operations of the universe present to the contemplation of admiring man, is the fact that truth and love, or Science and Benevolence, though the brightest Angels that ever left the throne of God, on an errand of mercy to poor, ignorant and selfish men, have ever, as a general rule, met the strongest opposition and the most ungrateful treatment from the very persons whom

they have so generously endeavored to enlighten, to refine and to bless. Such Angels are the truths that have heralded true medical reform, and such have been the opposition, slander and abuse they have experienced. Yet I hope that none will be startled at the assertion I now make, that nothing is easier than to prove, by the most abundant and appropriate testimony, by the most indubitable facts, logical deductions and tabular results, that this Allopathic system is the most erroneous, absurd, dangerous and destructive system of quackery, and its practice the most wicked as well as the most specious humbug, that the world has ever known; and that the very attempt to convince us that its principles constitute a solid science, or its practice a noble art, is an impudent insult to our understandings and our morals, as it supposes us neither ignoramuses, simpletons or knaves."

Our enemies are powerful and well organized, and know full well that the people in many states are at their mercy; but we can mould a public sentiment, before which this gigantic monopolistic fraud will at last be overthrown "and the people be free," if we will only do our duty.

J. ARMSTRONG, M. D.

We strongly advocate the great importance of an advanced and superior medical education. We need men and women educated that know how to cure and aid suffering humanity, instead of increasing their misery. The popular delusion that the most valuable medical knowledge is acquired in the dissecting room cutting up dead bodies, and experimenting upon living victims, is entailing fearful suffering and continually causing the death of thousands. An able physician truly says: It has ever been our wish to know all of worth that is to be known; and for this purpose we have examined the dead in quest of that marvelous light which is so brilliant in the walks of the regulars, and of which they now boast as being the only true medical light of the present day. But, of this pathological light, we have only to say that the dissecting room discovered to us no truth that could manifest any influence over disease. We could wrench nothing out of death that indicated what would cure the sick. If the dead have made revelations to others, where are the proofs? We, of course; look for a more successful practice—in greater medical skill, in staying and overthrowing disease, and all this made clear that the improvement rested on the light shed from this source. But look at the facts. Those who come forward with these pretensions cannot substantiate them. The fatal results of their practice prove that the dead have revealed to them no knowledge whereby they can rightly set up the claim to superior wisdom in the cure of disease. "The truth is that all the boasting we hear of the crowning medical skill which pathological anatomy affords, is only a stupendous humbug by which the people are most lamentably quacked out of their money, their health and their lives."

We ask our humane readers to assist us in arousing the people to suppress the cowardly and hypocritical torture inflicted upon dumb defenseless animals by the Professors in certain Chicago Medical Colleges, and to an alarming extent, over the U. S. Vivisection is the cutting up and torturing of live animals. In regard to this infernal practice, one of the greatest living orators says:

Vivisection is the Inquisition—the Hell—of Science. All the cruelty which the human—or rather the inhuman—heart is capable of inflicting, is in this one word. Below this there is no depth. This word lies like a coiled serpent at the bottom of the abyss. We can excuse, in part, the crimes of passion. We take into consideration that man is liable to be caught by the whirlwind, and that from a brain on fire the soul rushes to a crime. But what excuse can ingenuity form for a man who deliberately—with an unaccelerated pulse—with the calmness of John Calvin at the murder of Servetus—seeks, with curious and cunning knives, in the living, quivering flesh of a dog, for all the throbbing nerves of pain? The wretches who commit these infamous crimes pretend that they are working for the good of man. But those who are incapable of pitying animals are, as a matter of fact, incapable of pitying men. A physician who would cut a living rabbit in pieces—laying bare the nerves, denuding them with knives, pulling them out with forceps—would not hesitate to try experiments with men and women for the gratification of his curiosity. Never can I be the friend of one who vivisects his fellow-creatures. I do not wish to touch his hand.

When the angel of pity is driven from the heart; when the fountain of tears is dry—the soul becomes a serpent crawling in the dust of a desert. See last page cover.

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